

## BUILD SKILLS

### The Devil and Tom Walker

#### LITERARY ANALYSIS

When an author creates a story with an **omniscient point of view**, he or she uses an all-knowing narrator who tells the events of the story. Stories that use an omniscient point of view have the following features:

- A narrator who is not part of the action
- Details about the thoughts and feelings of each character
- Commentary from the narrator about events in the story

As you read “The Devil and Tom Walker,” notice how an all-knowing narrator presents information that a character from the story would not know.

#### READING STRATEGY

A story can reveal **cultural attitudes** about people. Authors do this by using the following elements:

- Descriptive details
- Narrator’s comments
- Characters’ dialogue

Authors then let the readers **make inferences** based on this information. In “The Devil and Tom Walker,” the reference to Native Americans as “savages” reveals cultural attitudes. Use the following chart to track examples of cultural attitudes presented in the story.

Detail	Cultural Attitude